

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 17:50:42 1994
From: JSPEER@sfasu.edu
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 13:17:15 -0600 (CST)
Subject: Re:
Message-Id: <01HJL5MNYNTQ000AP6@TITAN.SFASU.EDU>

jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu wrote:

>Message-Id: <9411170254.AA00715@cruncher.math.hawaii.edu>

>To: miker@cc.com

>Subject: Re: QRO assault

>Status: R

>

>

>Michael asks what a lid is: A very poor operator is called a lid
>for reasons that may have been lost to history. One story is that
>a new landline telegraph operator might have had trouble distinguishing
>between a dot and a dash on the telegraph sounder - to help identify
>the character the new op might place a tin lid over the sounder so
>it would 'ring', making the sounds more distinctive. Thus the oldtimers
>started calling the newer ops 'lid'.

>

>I was a US Coast Guard CW operator back in the late 70's and
>primarily did duty on the old 500 kc international CW calling and
>distress frequency. When a lid would make himself known on
>500 kc he'd be slapped with a very slow ___..___ from everyone
>within range (which would be everyone in the Pacific! Imagine
>over 100 ___..___'s being thrown at you!)

>

>Now someone will ask why ___..___ = LID on the maritime CW frequencies;
>I have no answer for that.

>

>For more radio folklore, history, and discussions about tube radios
>some of you might consider reading the sister-list to this one:

>Boatanchors. To subscribe send an email to:

> boatanchors-request@gnu.ai.mit.edu

>but be patient - the list manager has been gone for almost one
>year now so the list is frozen. For now you can read the daily
>digest of article via ftp from Steve's sunsite.unc.edu site.

>

>Jeff NH6IL (ex: NMO CW op)

When I was first a novice, I used to send my qth as "Houston dah dah di di dah
dah Texas;" very lid-like I now think. Maybe Jeff's dah dah di di dah dah
standing for lid comes from a similar observation in the VLF world.

72!

--

If RST > 519

Jim Speer, K5YUT

Then cut_power;

f_speerjr@titan.sfasu.edu

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 07:39:30 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 01:34:38 PST
From: R._Baker.VEN1@rx.xerox.com
Subject: Re: 10M calling freq
Message-Id: <"17-Nov-94 10:34 AM".*.R._Baker.VEN1@RX.Xerox.com>

Jeff,

I don't know about it being an official calling frequency but I've had a lot of luck hanging around on 28.500 MHz for SSB. Despite the poor state of the band at the moment I have managed to work plenty of Africans and South American stations but the North Atlantic crossing is very difficult.

Russell - PA/G4ZRZ

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 17:41:54 1994
From: Edward=F=Burke%Eng%GPID@banyan.BV.TEK.COM
Message-Id: <9411171939.AA28517@tekgen.bv.tek.com>
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 94 11:37:37 PST
Subject: <didn't bother with a subject>

subscribe qrp-l

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 14:28:21 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 94 09:03:42 MST
From: miker@cc.com (Mike Robinson)
Subject: <didn't bother with a subject>
Message-Id: <9411171603.AA15010@cc.com >

Return-Path: <jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu>
Received: from csn.org by cc.com (4.1/SMI-4.1)
id AA14574; Wed, 16 Nov 94 19:49:31 MST
Received: from kahuna.math.hawaii.edu (math.hawaii.edu) by csn.org with SMTP id AA23205
(5.65c/IDA-1.4.4 for <miker@cc.com>); Wed, 16 Nov 1994 19:55:45 -0700
Received: from cruncher.math.hawaii.edu by kahuna.math.hawaii.edu (4.1/kahuna-MX-1.4b)
id AA18572; Wed, 16 Nov 94 16:54:29 HST
Received: by cruncher.math.hawaii.edu (4.1/cruncher-CLIENT-1.3)
id AA00715; Wed, 16 Nov 94 16:54:25 HST
Date: Wed, 16 Nov 94 16:54:25 HST
>From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu
Message-Id: <9411170254.AA00715@cruncher.math.hawaii.edu>
To: miker@cc.com
Subject: Re: QRO assault
Status: R

Michael asks what a lid is: A very poor operator is called a lid for reasons that may have been lost to history. One story is that a new landline telegraph operator might have had trouble distinguishing between a dot and a dash on the telegraph sounder - to help identify the character the new op might place a tin lid over the sounder so it would 'ring', making the sounds more distinctive. Thus the oldtimers started calling the newer ops 'lid'.

I was a US Coast Guard CW operator back in the late 70's and primarily did duty on the old 500 kc international CW calling and distress frequency. When a lid would make himself known on 500 kc he'd be slapped with a very slow ___..__ from everyone within range (which would be everyone in the Pacific! Imagine over 100 ___..__'s being thrown at you!)

Now someone will ask why ___..__ = LID on the maritime CW frequencies; I have no answer for that.

For more radio folklore, history, and discussions about tube radios some of you might consider reading the sister-list to this one: Boatanchors. To subscribe send an email to:

boatanchors-request@gnu.ai.mit.edu

but be patient - the list manager has been gone for almost one year now so the list is frozen. For now you can read the daily digest of article via ftp from Steve's sunsite.unc.edu site.

Jeff NH6IL (ex: NMO CW op)

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 13:06:58 1994

From: KELL@mpac.jsc.nasa.gov

Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 9:02:11 -0600 (CST)

Message-Id: <941117090211.336@mpac.jsc.nasa.gov>

Subject: Adding turns to a VFO toroid

I have a NORCAL 40 with the VFO toroid wound with 59 turns to get it into the novice band. I want to move the rig down to the the 7030/7040 area, so I need to add three turns. The thought of removing 59 turns, so I can put 62 back on is a real turn-off. So I thought, why not just tack a bit of wire onto the end of the current piece and then add three turns? Would there be a problem with doing this? There would be this solder joint in the middle of toroid. Would it affect the operation of the coil in some unspecified negative fashion? Does everybody already do this and just don't talk about it? :)

Ted Kell@mpac.jsc.nasa.gov
KC5CUW/AA

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 14:27:16 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 11:37:27 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucsf.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: Another 40-40 is Born!
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9411171127.A11479-01000000@random.ucsf.mun.ca>

Hi Craig - nice to hear the 40-40 is chugging away. Quick question - what size zener did you install? i noticed Dave mentioned a 33V or 36V version? I need to install on my 30-40 and my uncomplete 40-40.

Thanks on the toroid winding info for the 40-40 - My experience on my 30-40 says that I will probably have to tweak my 40-40 toroid to get it on the money - this is probably one weakness in Dave's design that the L and C combination that he picked is very tight and you need to play with BOTH the toroid coil turns and additional capacitance across the toroid.

By the way was your's a NE QRP kit or one of the QST ones - I think Dave has a few mods (like the zener etc) that were published in the last addition of 72 Magazine? Did you install these mods like metal can 2N2222a transistors, a new final to replace the original and a cap change?

72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 19:28:57 1994
From: Bill Northup <northup@sw.stratus.com>
Message-Id: <199411172056.PAA07625@abersoch.sw.stratus.com>
Subject: Re: Another 40-40 is Born!
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 15:56:18 -0500 (EST)

>
> Hi Craig - nice to hear the 40-40 is chugging away. Quick question -
> what size zener did you install? i noticed Dave mentioned a 33V or 36V
> version? I need to install on my 30-40 and my uncomplete 40-40.
>
> Thanks on the toroid winding info for the 40-40 - My experience on my
> 30-40 says that I will probably have to tweak my 40-40 toroid to get it
> on the money - this is probably one weakness in Dave's design that the L
> and C combination that he picked is very tight and you need to play
> with BOTH the toroid coil turns and additional capacitance across the
> toroid.
>

My 40-40 ended up about the same as Craig's removing 1 turn on the toroid and

I added a 22pf cap. I ended up with a bandwidth of about 34 Khz.

> By the way was your's a NE QRP kit or one of the QST ones - I think Dave
> has a few mods (like the zener etc) that were published in the last
> addition of 72 Magazine? Did you install these mods like metal can
> 2N2222a transistors, a new final to replace the original and a cap change?
>
> 72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB
>
>

I just joined NE QRP so I havn't seen 72 Magazine yet. Can someone pass along information on the mods that Dave wrote about ?

thanks Bill N1QPR

--

Bill Northup	PHONE:	(508) 460-2085
Stratus Computer Inc.	INTERNET:	northup@sw.stratus.com
55 Fairbanks Boulevard	Amateur Radio:	N1QPR
Marlboro, MA 01752		

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 19:56:05 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 13:41:45 +0800
From: Raymond.Anderson@EBay.Sun.COM (Ray Anderson)
Message-Id: <9411172141.AA00641@uranium.EBay.Sun.COM>
Subject: Re: Another 40-40 is Born!

>
stuff deleted

>
> Thanks on the toroid winding info for the 40-40 - My experience on my
> 30-40 says that I will probably have to tweak my 40-40 toroid to get it
> on the money - this is probably one weakness in Dave's design that the L
> and C combination that he picked is very tight and you you need to play
> with BOTH the toroid coil turns and additional capacitance across the
> toroid.
>

more stuff deleted

>>

> 72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

Just a couple words in defense of the 40-40 VFO (or any other rig that utilizes a toroid as a frequency determining element.) I wouldn't say that it was a "weakness" in the design that it has been required to play with the number of turns on the inductor and/or a capacitor value.

Toroidal coils are usually not highly reproducible if you are looking for precision results. Why? Three main things:

- 1.) The core material can vary from lot to lot even though it is supposed to be the same. The variation may not be much, but if you are looking to have tightly controlled inductance, even a slight variation can be significant.
- 2.) The actual winding of the coil is difficult to replicate exactly from device to device. The tightness of the turns, the spacing of the turns, and exactly how the part is positioned with respect to the board can make a noticeable difference in the final inductance.
- 3.) The part is inherently non-tunable except by "playing" with the turn spacing and number of turns.

Perhaps a small trimmer cap would be a good addition to the circuit to ease the VFO alignment. This would be a lot easier than playing with the toroid or changing fixed capacitors. You need to change both the coil turns and the capacitor since changing the # of turns on the toroid alters the inductance by a finite amount so you need to change the cap. to get greater resolution. The down side of adding a variable cap would be slightly increased cost, and possibly another cause of drift or instability.

Just my two cents worth!

73 de WB6TPU
Ray
raymonda@uranium.ebay.sun.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 22:08:13 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 21:43:38 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucsf.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: Another 40-40 is Born!
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9411172138.J19271-01000000@random.ucsf.mun.ca>

Hi Ray,

Thanks for your comments on the characteristics of toroids - good point made. Dave's design actually does have a variable cap (2-27pf) for tuning but that seems to not be enough to get the coil/cap combination to fall at the freq set point needed. The point made in Dave's design is he called out the use of #22 wire on T-50-2 .5" dia toroid and 28 turns takes you to the limit - one more turn is a "squish". I've been trying to train myself (ie take my time) to wind my toroids as tight as possible and stick with the spacing that I need - so there is a little bit of "art" to this and maybe when I finally get my Sierra and wind a zillion

toroids maybe I'll get better at it - hi.

Thanks for your info Ray.

72 Bob VO1DRB/WA6ERB

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 22:17:32 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 94 14:47:57 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9411172047.AA03556@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: archives

Gang,

I just did a lookup in the archives. For those of you who are statistical minded:

The first file starts with date in April 1993. Since that time we have generated

208941 1302961 7959849 total

where 208,941 lines, 1,302,961 words, and 7,959,849 characters as of yesterday. That's a lot of information on the superhighway. Let noone say that QRPers are not a talkative group. :-)

I am in process of generating a FAQ (heck, what else did you expect me to do on vacation? :-)), so if you have some question that outta be there, send ME email, let's not clog the mailer - PLEASE.

I have an outline of topics including:

1. QRP and QRPP - what does it mean
2. Internet Mail Group
3. Clubs
4. Awards
5. Contests
6. Equipment
 - a. Commercial
 - b. Kits
 - c. Homebrew
 - d. Getting Help
7. Books and Magazines
8. Antennas, a.k.a. Aerials
9. Misc that wouldn't fit elsewhere

dit dit
SIG
Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60
adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 12:55:55 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 08:51:27 -0800
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
Message-Id: <199411171651.IAA14825@netcom14.netcom.com>
Subject: Big QRP-specific contests?

I'm looking for a large-scale QRP contest to engage in over this winter;
I've heard of QRP ARCI but don't know much about it. Could anyone give me
a lead or suggestions on contests. I'm more interested in something that's
specifically QRP rather than a QRP class of SS...

73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 21:09:30 1994
From: Bilbee@aol.com
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 15:57:57 -0500
Message-Id: <941117155608_1584414@aol.com>
Subject: Brainpower more than QRP?

Was watching a TV program yest. and the science guy said that the human brain
consumes the equiv. of 10 watts of power. That may go up when an attractive
person of the opposite sex walks by. Hmmm. That's even more than QRP power
....

-- Bil Paul KD6JUI

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 14:28:30 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 11:45:36 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: CHEAP KEYS
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9411171136.B11479-0100000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Doug,

You may have something there - I've seen that in the T-T Kit catalog but
discounted it because it was a single paddle keyer, since I've never
operated a single paddle keyer before. But what the hey, for \$9 maybe I
should learn how to use one - and it probable is a lot easier Building a
single level paddle - old hacksaw blade etc

Anyone out there use a single paddle key? This may be an easier paddle

to use when you are out A-field operating in a rain storm - you just have to "slap" the paddle back and forth and not worry about gently squeezing two paddles with iambic.

Thanks Doug for the tid-bit (QRP food for thought)

Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

On Wed, 16 Nov 1994, Doug Hendricks wrote:

> I can't believe that no one else has posted this, but I will if no one else
> will. Ten Tec has the following ad on page 12 of their catalog.
>
> Budget Electronic Keyer
> A classic circuit and a nice price make this a great project for beginners or
> for building into extra rigs. Includes speed control, weight control (rarely
> offered in "simple" CMOS circuits) and sidetone pitch control. A lot of keyer for
> the price, it features self completing dits and dahs for standard single
> lever keyer paddles. While not designed for iambic operation, the price and
> reliability make the 1553 a very nice introduction to electronic CW keying.
>
> T-Kit No. 1553, \$9.00
> Suggested Enclosure Plus Pak. NO 1000A, \$13.50.
>
> There it is guys, a keyer kit for \$9.00. Comments from anyone who has built
> the kit????
> 72, Doug
> KI6DS
>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 23:39:54 1994
From: KevinN8XEE@aol.com
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 21:47:56 -0500
Message-Id: <941117212802_1840848@aol.com>
Subject: Re: CHEAP KEYS

Bob, I'm currently using a single-paddle key (homebrew from hacksaw blade, with several refinements), and find it very comfortable up to about 24WPM. Faster than that it bounces too much (or maybe it's my fist!). If anyone would like the details of this paddle, let me know.

Best 73
Kevin
N8XEE

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 14:52:53 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 94 10:03:47 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)

Message-Id: <9411171603.AA02971@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: Dayton

Gang,

Doug and the NorCal group is getting a group together for the 1995 Dayton Meet. Several things that we outta do for Dayton.

1. Get everyone that can make it from this group there.
2. Bring all these rigs we keep hearing about.
3. Compare notes and swap gear.
4. Maybe have a meeting of NorCal Sierra, 40, 40a and NE40-40 NE30-40, OHR rigs, and home brew to operate side by side and kick the tires (so to speak).
5. Just have a good time.

dit dit

SIG

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60
adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 23:11:00 1994
Message-Id: <9411172251.AA28270@elmailer.asic.mtv.nec.com>
Date: Thu, 17 NOV 94 14:42:59
From: Charles Furnweger <CHARLES@asic.mtv.nec.com>
Subject: Re: Dayton (1995 dates)

For those that aren't sure when Dayton is, the dates are Friday, April 28 through Sunday April 30, 1995. Friday is a "must" day for the flea market, it is great....even when it rains (which it always does!).

73s..... :-)
Charles
WB4OWL

--

Charles Furnweger	NEC Electronics, Inc.	Mountain View, CA
Voice: 415 965-6433	charles@asic.mtv.nec.com	FAX: 415 965-6374

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 23:33:33 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 94 16:15:13 MST
From: miker@cc.com (Mike Robinson)
Message-Id: <9411172315.AA15428@cc.com >
Subject: Dummy loads

Larry writes:

>For those who haven't browsed around your local Radio Shack lately, they have
>a nice (but a bit pricey...) 50 Ohm dummy load (rated at 15W, I believe) with
>a built-in UHF (male) connector. Nice little gadget -- even works at 2m. I've
>"zapped" mine with 50W for a few seconds with no ill effects. Just a note
>for you who would rather spend money than build...
>

I rigged a dummy load from my junk parts:

- 1) PL259 with about 3" coax sticking out
- 2) expose the center tap at the end
- 3) solder a 50ohm 25watt ceramic resistor
between the end centertap and the case
of the PL259.

```

----
==|  [COAX]---,
----\      /
      R50ohms25wattsR
```

Am I way off base here?

```

=====
7.3 de Michael aa0ub      ( formerly kd6wdd and kg0ot )
miker@cc.com              --==<< I'm the last 'S' in KISS >>==--
=====
```

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 12:45:05 1994
Message-Id: <INELVM1.LVE.812411090094321FINELVM1@INEL.GOV>
Date: 17 Nov 1994 09:11:09 MST
From: "Larry East" <LVE@inel.gov>
Subject: First Rig Suggestion

Advanced Nuclear Systems Technology
MS 7113 533-4005 lve@inel.gov
Have seen some newcomers to ham radio on the list asking about first-time

rigs. Although there are a lot of used rigs around that would do the trick, one that I would suggest considering is the FT-301. This is a solidly built rig that has variable power output from about 100mW to 100W+ via a front panel control, so it gives the opportunity to try both QRP and QRO operation. It does not, however, cover 30 17 and 12 meters (but it does cover 160m -- which some rigs don't). There is also an "S" version that does not include the bolt-on power amp and puts out a maximum of about 10W, but it is best to look for the high power version in my opinion (probably about the same cost). An analog readout model can probably be obtained for less than \$300, plus another \$100 or so for power supply (requires 12 - 14 V at 15 - 20 amps for full 100W output). The digital readout version (FT-301D) will probably cost a little more. That's my suggestion -- I'm sure everyone on the list has their own opinion on the matter! 72 from Idaho -- Larry W1HUE/7

Have a productive day :-)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 16:08:42 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 94 13:55:45 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9411171955.AA03366@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: FOX addendum

Gang,

One additional rule and the final decision of the judge is final. The same station as FOX and hunter can not win both NExx-40 kits. :-) Just in case this comes up and it was something that I thought of when leaving Miami in 40 mph wind gusts on Tuesday. :-)

dit dit

SIG

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60
adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 15:00:12 1994
Message-Id: <INELVM1.LVE.005234080094321FINELVM1@INEL.GOV>
Date: 17 Nov 1994 08:34:08 MST
From: "Larry East" <LVE@inel.gov>
Subject: RE: Fox Hunt

Advanced Nuclear Systems Technology
MS 7113 533-4005 lve@inel.gov

I listened for N9UXU during all three posted time intervals -- 0200-0400 UCT, 0300-0500 UCT and 0400-0600 UCT (sure would be nice if folks listened to WWV and/or figured out proper conversions from local to UCT...) -- and never heard a "peep" out here in Idaho. Know band wasn't dead, 'cuz heard some 8's, 9's and even a 2 and worked a guy in Ft. Wayne around 0500 UCT. Oh well, maybe next time... 72/73, Larry W1HUE/7

Have a productive day :-)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 21:34:10 1994
Message-Id: <9411172306.AA28483@elmailer.asic.mtv.nec.com>
Date: Thu, 17 NOV 94 14:57:49
From: Charles Furnweger <CHARLES@asic.mtv.nec.com>
Subject: Fox hunt

I heard (and worked) the FOX last night! Thanks to Dave for being the fox. He had a strong signal in Fremont, California (San Francisco Bay Area, aka Silicon Valley). I was listening from about 0300 UTC and heard nothing. Then, just like someone flipped a switch, at 0400 he came booming in. I had just about given up and was eating dinner when I heard him. Dave answered on my first call and we had a solid contact.

Dave was my first fox contact for the contest and I was really excited! Hmmmmmm, wonder if I am in the running for the "grand prize". Has anyone contacted more than one fox?

Thanks to Chuck for coming up with the fox hunt....great idea!

73s..... :-)
Charles
WB4OWL

--

Charles Furnweger	NEC Electronics, Inc.	Mountain View, CA
Voice: 415 965-6433	charles@asic.mtv.nec.com	FAX: 415 965-6374

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 14:57:03 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 94 09:12:57 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9411171512.AA02927@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: Fox Hunt Etiquite

Gang,

I got email from another member of the group about what to do if one invests one time in listening for the fox and you don't hear the station being sought.

They suggested sending CQ CQ CQ INET INET DE ...

I'd say go for it, but make sure you move a little away from the frequency the Fox is operating on as posted. In the case of someone operating at 7.110 and above, then if you don't hear anyone move down to 7.040 area.

The side effect of all this is that a situation could arise where everyone is working everyone else and noone works the fox. :-)

I sincerely hope that I did not create a monster here, i.e. a lot of valuable time is spent by a lot of people trying to work another station when the band conditions aren't helping.

In the last few nights I've noted that 40M was long at sunset and in pretty good shape for a few hours then when the MUF drops below 7MHz the band goes dead. What I do is listen to the BC stations between 7.1 and 7.15 and see how strong they are. If you don't hear them, then skip is short or the band is dead.

Tuesday nite at 2330Z I worked SD, MI, and DC with 0.95W and 599 reports from all stations. They were also 599 using the Sierra. Later I came back around 0300 or 0400 and the band (make that band) was nearly dead with some weak signals heard but mostly a vacant band.

We have no control over propagation, but you knew that.

Thanks to Dave for last nights attempt. I think that the band must have been long at the time, considering all the stations that he worked were in CA.

If you do get on before or after, remember that 7.040 and 7.110 are good frequencies to try for fellow QRPers and INETers.

dit dit

SIG

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60

adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 15:22:36 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 07:51:41 -0800 (PST)
From: Monte Stark <mswmod@sage.unr.edu>
Subject: Re: Fox log
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941117075000.20666C-100000@nimbus>

On Wed, 16 Nov 1994, David Adams wrote:

>
> Well...that was interesting. My apologies for my sloppy code. Glad to
> say that I did get found, though....
>
> 04:00 WB4OWL
> 04:08 K06CL
> 04:35 KM6WT
>
> That's all the contacts...I'll fox again in March.
>
> 73 de Dave, N9UXU
>
Hi all,

Was on the lookout for the whole 2 hours. Never heard
a peep from Dave or the stations he worked.

Guess it's time to put up a real antenna.....

73's, Ron

.....KU7Y.....
.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
.....Sun Valley, Nevada.....

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 12:43:59 1994
Message-Id: <9411171429.AA16769@esds01.es.dupont.com>
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 94 09:29:08 EST
From: "Stephen M. Shearer, 695-7719" <shearer@ep1ram.dnet.dupont.com>
Subject: RE: INET Keyer Project

In my quest for information on backpacking keys, I have some
information on the Schurr keys. (bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca "Bob
V01DRB/WA6ERB -- Robert Gobrick" commented about them)
Schurr-Morsetasten keys are imported (US) by Electronic Switch Co.,
Inc. and sold by Ham Radio Outlet, Oklahoma Comm Center, Universal
Radio, Tucker Electronics, and The Ham Station. The iambic
"wabbler" without base (Einbau Wabbler) sells for \$115.95. Also a
mini St key for \$169.95. I don't have the weight of the key in my
file at work, the wabbler with base is 4.9"x2.3"x2" at 27.2oz.

I checked my old Handbooks and found the "Accu-Keyer" from Aug 1973 QST also see Jan 1976 QST for CMOS version and June 1979 QST (hints/kinks) for better clock ckt (the QST ref is from the handbook -- i'll have to look in the attic to see if I still have copies). The ttl version in the handbook used 7ic's and 4 transistors. The board cost \$3.50 (in 1980). It provides for self-completing dit/dahs, dit/dah mem, iambic, dit/dah insertion, character spacing. K8AW improvement to eliminate trailing dits and N4GG weight control is shown. The board was 2.5"x3.8" If anyone would like a FAX of what's in the handbook, email me your FAX phone number.

I think a \$10 keyer is a great idea and for \$10 I would make it... But I am planning on making a small CMOS super keyer II, with small swithches, pot, earphone jack rather than speaker and small batteries (the book says 3-5.5volts -- will it work ok with a 6v lith battery?? or I'll use "N" size batteries). I havn't decided upon the "backpacking" key I'll use (I hope to use the keyer/rig for more then camping). For backpacking, the two switch/pvc pipe system of N6YQD sounds interresting. I was hoping to find a design for a machine it yourself key -- and make it smaller and use aluminum. If I ever finish renovating my kitchen, I plan on finishing a design for a "bomb proof" 1.5" st key. Then I can see about an iambic version.

73, Steve WB3LGC

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 17:08:47 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 14:41:51 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucsf.edu>
Subject: RE: INET Keyer Project
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9411171451.B13751-01000000@random.ucsf.edu>

Steve - forget the renovating of the kitchen we need your tiny super CMOS keyer design... hi. The battery voltage on the Super CMOS II memoery keyer is touchy - I went the route of 3 AA cells mounted in a 4 AA cell holder with a "shorted" dummy cell for the fourth battery. That was in a small minibox so no problem. I also used an old mono earphone as my "speaker".

I'd be interested in what you come up with for small mini pushbuttons - the RS ones I used are not so hot - probably would like to get something decent with "gold-like" contacts to make good connection. Also Jim Fiton W1FMR used one of those new mini 12 v batteries from Radio Shack but I'm sure he was using a Curtis chip design which allowed 12 V.

Are you going to use the Super CMOS II keyer PC board or roll your own.

I like the ideas of coming up with one little box with the Super Keyer in it and a mini key mounted on top. I think this combination would be the cat's meow for portable work etc. I'm still looking at using the Ramsey "touch" paddles (you can buy these paddles from Ramsey - they are from there new keyer/iambic key kit. In addition they sell a kit for aoutomatically turning on room lights by touching and in the schematic they show how to use it as a keyer circuit drive for these touch paddles - couple of CMOS gates looking at a high meg resistance)

Good luck - get that kitchen done and move on to something important...

72 Bob VO1DRB/WA6ERB

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 08:57:27 1994
Message-Id: <199411171003.AA03946@halcyon.com>
From: ki7zd@halcyon.com (Randy Seacat)
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 02:03:04 PST
Subject: Intro

Hi folks,

New to list here, and pretty new to the hobby, atleast transmitting anyway.

My name is Randy, Im located near Mt. Rainier in washington state. I began my ham time in Sept 1993 by taking my Novice and Tech exams. I was offered the Gen the same eve, and suprisingly, i passed it. I started with my first contacts on a Heatkit hw-7. I loved it. I operated as a general two days after my ticket arrived and the time of my life. I have upgraded to Extra this week by passing the theory. I completed my 20wpm exam in Jan of 94, and as I sit back and think about that, I am impressed. I had never used cw until oct. of 93, and i still cant believe that i was able to go from 0wpm to 20wpm in 3 months. Anyway, I really enjoy it and I guess that had alot to do with it. Alot of folks have a hard time with code. I think my one major advantage is that I have been a career musican for 18 years. When I pull out the old Hw-7 and plug into a peice of wire, i get a big thrill. Look for me on the bands. I use 7.125 alot, as I really enjoy working newer hams. Anything to share that feeling that I had when I realized what 1 watt could do.

bk

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 15:32:18 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 11:38:00 -0500 (EST)
From: prvalko <prvalko@vela.acs.oakland.edu>
Subject: Re: Intro
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9411171154.A22672-01000000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Thu, 17 Nov 1994, Randy Seacat wrote:

> Hi folks,
>
> My name is Randy, Im located near Mt. Rainier in washington state. I began
> my ham time in Sept 1993 ...

[S N I P]

... I use 7.125 alot, as I really enjoy working newer hams.

HAHAHHAHAHAH!! Oh Boy Randy, thanks for the chuckle of my day! I
love new hams too, like the fella that have been licensed since,
ohhh... say 1977... [I got mine in 76] :-)

What I *really* wanted to say, until I read your last line ;-) was, I
think it is incredible and fantastic that you went from zero to General
in one day. That is almost unheard of in this day of tech-lites and
weekly VE exams. Congratulations! Hope to hear you on the bands!

73 =paul= wb8zjl

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 23:52:49 1994
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.ge.com
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 21:15:12 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <941117211512.21607e43@cayman.vf.ge.com>
Subject: keyers/touch keys

There has been some recent discussion about electronic keyers and, in
particular what I broadly classify as "touch" keys. These keys can be very
easy to build and use, but don't always behave as you might expect.

Most have a high input impedance switch, either a CMOS gate, an FET or a
darlington-connected transistor pair. These generally operate inoperate in
either of two ways:

Some, and I think this includes the Ramsey design, rely on conduction of stray
ac fields through the keying finger or fingers. This is fine around most
houses where there is ac power floating around, but may be problematic for
portable or mobile usage.

Others, like the "Copperhead Keyer" rely on the partially conductive skin of
the operator's fingers to complete a circuit between the gate and circuit
ground. At best this is a delicate balancing act between too much and too
little conduction. Dirt on the insulating surface of the keyer paddles can
cause an erratic "key down" condition. Humid conditions common at many

portable sites - and, of course, Field Day - can cause a continuous "key down" condition. BTW, don't try to blow on the paddle to dry it off, that just makes it wetter - I know! Not only that, but finger conductivity can vary widely. First of all, gloves are usually non-conductive. And when your fingers are cold, they don't conduct very well either. Then when you moisten your fingers (with a moist tongue) or when they are sweaty, you can leave moisture behind that conducts after your finger is removed from the paddle.

Probably the best "touch key" method uses capacitive coupling rather than straight conduction. I believe that a true capacitive circuit appeared in Sprat before I became a G-QRP member. I also saw a good capacitive "touch" circuit when I worked for the Pulsar watch people (remember LED digital watches?) I wish I'd kept the circuit schematic.

One handicap of any of the circuits is that they are often "rf" sensitive. If you have any transmit signal floating around in your shack, you are bound to have more erratic action. What often happens is that when you stop keying, the keyer doesn't know it and keeps going! A good balun or even a coiled coax balun in your feedline can help.

All of the above is not meant to discourage anyone. I use a keyer with circuitry like the "Copperhead" for fixed and portable operation. But when you use any of the above you have to remember its limitations.

Just my 2 dits.

72,

Joe E. N2CX

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 23:41:00 1994

From: David Adams <dave@flowserver.stem.com>

Message-Id: <9411180206.AA19517@flowserver.stem.com>

Date: Thu, 17 Nov 94 18:04:11 -0800

Subject: My fox experience

Well...people have been asking what happened last night, so rather than type the same thing over and over, I thought I might do a recap here.

At my qth the band was hideous....the noise level was deafening....

I was running a Kenwood TS-520 and had it tuned down to 5 watts. At 03:00 I first tuned the rig and connected to my hamstick dipole (which refuses to tune to resonance)/tuner combo. I spent my first hour sending and listening there...no contacts....

I then switched to my 40m wire dipole strung along the walls inside the shack (strung out in the mangled corpse configuration). I immediately made contact with the 4 station. I was pleased....the two six station came soon (ish) after that, but not uncoincidentally, after my third contact, my wife came home with our 2 year old daughter, and I was unable to pull anymore stations out of the noise...ah well...kept calling though...

73 de dave

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 16:04:56 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 94 09:57:58 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9411171557.AA02958@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: NE30-40

Gang,

As promised, I finished the NE30-40 yesterday afternoon. Haven't gotten an antenna up yet for 30M, but will have to do so now.

Here are some notes:

1. L2 and L3 do not require 16" of wire. I started with 11" and that did the job nicely.
2. I wound L1 with 29 turns (one more than Dave NN1G noted in construction notes) as was posted by others in this group. The tuning range with C8 fully meshed is 10.113 to 10.139MHz. It was in the process of doing this last measurement with the old trusty Heath IM-2410 counter that I nearly fried the 2N3553 PA transistor. I had the key down and measuring up and down the band and I noted that the case of the PA was bubbling!!!! Ooops. No damage done, but I sure don't like abusing components like that. Stupid is as stupid does - F. Gump.

The magnetic wire here is very large and 29 turns got me one turn over another, but that doesn't bother me. That bothers a bunch of people, all for the wrong reasons. :-) I'll have to ask Dave why he wanted such a low Q for L1 as I think #24 will work as well as #22. I may rewind mine and check it out.

3. Only part missing was 47pF cap, but I stole another from a NE40-40 kit still in the bag.

Keying is clean as listened to with the OHR Sprint 30M and as usual the QSK works nicely. I used another one of my cases, 6.5 x 5.5 x 2.5",

and this time I mounted the board in the left hand side and found that it takes only 1/2 of the real estate, thus plenty of room for the CMOS II keyer, but I want to leave it in the K5FO Special for now. I need to get a manual as R&R only provided the QST article and I don't think I have all the command set for it down.

So, now we'll have to get the NE30-40 owners on 30M and check out propagation on weekends or evenings.

Now, who is it that's having problems? Send me email and we'll compare notes. No use tying up the mail system.

dit dit

SIG

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60
adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 21:45:12 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 20:56:06 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: NE30-40
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9411172006.A19271-01000000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Hi Chuck,

Just some feedback on using #22 wire for L1 - after I came up short on my first attempt with 28 turns of #22 wire I decided to rewind L1 again. Unfortunately I did not have any #22 wire laying around so I used some #24 wire and rewound for 29 turns. First off with the smaller diameter wire I was able to fit it all on without overlaps and second my coil came just below 10.1 on the low end so I added a 15 pf cap (from the Radio Shack low capacitance bargain pack) and got it to tune right on the money with C8.

I think you should have no problem going to #26 wire. I forgot where I read it (maybe Mike's WA8MCQ Idea Exchange in The Quarterly) but the diameter of the wire within a step or two does not have a big (define big) effect on the inductance. I felt the #22 was pushing the limit of the toroid inner diameter when you went with more than 28 turns so I agree Dave may want to re-evaluate his wire size here.

OK Chuck what does the overlap of a turn do? I imagine the same flux lines cut the toroid material it just means some of it is being "blocked" by one of the turns. What does your ex "K5FO's QRP Newsletter"

University degree course say about this?

Thanks for your building tips Chuck

72 Bob VO1DRB/WA6ERB

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 23:45:37 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 94 20:21:19 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9411180221.AA04032@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: NE30-40 Stability

Gang,

I did the following experiment, in a manner similar to last years post on the NorCal 40 freq stability.

1. Measured freq of L0 of the NE30-40 from a cold start.
2. Measured with a calibrated and stabilized Heath IM-2410 frequency counter calibrated with WWV using Heath GC-1000 clock which outputs 3.600000 MHz signal when in sync with WWV. (Someone last year or early this year made a passing remark about the clock on my desk at the operating position and it's accuracy. Well, for the record it is the above.)
3. Done with cover off of case in medium sized room with ambient temperature about 68 degrees F (20 degrees C). Calm air and I didn't have window open as before. :-)

Here are the numbers:

TIME (UTC)	FREQ
-----	-----
0101	1.948257
0102	1.948260
0103	1.948264
0104	1.948267
0105	1.948267
0110	1.948267
0120	1.948267
0130	1.948267

This was with tuning pot at one end. Moved pot to the detent position!!! (yes, i know, i should have checked it before i installed it. i just grabbed two pots outta the box and looked at the values and popped

them in. as it turns out, the tuning pot is a center
detented pot. hey, it's just a hobby. :-)

TIME (UTC)	FREQ
0140	1.936002
0141	1.936015
0142	1.936030
0143	1.936041
0144	1.936053
0145	1.936057
0150	1.936074
0155	1.936078
0160	1.936078
0170	1.936078

All frequencies are in MHz. Both sets from cold start, i.e.
rig powered off and then powered on. Its interesting that
the drift is more serious in center position, but I'd think
this is a thermal effect caused by the pot (real cheapy) and
the first set is with no resistance from ground to the tap.

All in all I'd have to give Dave Benson, NN1G, an A+ for
a very stable circuit using a varactor tuned diode LC circuit.
Less than 100 Hz drift from cold start over 30 minute period.
You wouldn't notice this in a QSO as far as I can tell.

FYI

dit dit

Just another satisfied customer in TX. I don't get any
rewards for this review. I'd be interested in others measurements
from those so inclined to do so. BTW IF freq is 8.192 MHz for the
NE30-40 and 4.000 MHz for the 40M version, the NE40-40. Wonder
if we have to call the newer version NE30-50 and NE40-50 now that
the price went up to \$50 bucks. :-) And this is the rig shown
in Nov QST '94 and not the earlier NN1G Mark II kit.

SIG

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60
adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 22:46:27 1994

From: NYOUNG@nova.wright.edu
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 19:23:31 -0400 (EDT)
Subject: NW8030
Message-Id: <01HJLHXBBX0I8ZFGWG@nova.wright.edu>

Anyone out there in the etherial mist have experience with the NW80** that was the subject of an article in the Sept '94 issue of QRPp? I'd be interested in knowing how well the kit from Dan's SP&K went together. Maybe well isn't the correct word. How about "how easily" the kit went together.

I ask for two reasons: (1) I have no quarrel with Dan's set-up, but getting all the parts is important. Things like board & masking, reduction drives and a reasonably suitable capacitor do seem important to me.

(2) Given that the IF/mix scheme in the article places the IF above the operating frequency (and only by 2 MHz, at that) with a VFO running around 1.85, I am hoping that there are no serious image or spur problems. It makes a lot more sense than running a 6.068 VFO against a 4.032 CO/IF, with birdies at 10.06, 10.140 & 10.180 when the intended frequency was 10.1 (and don't ask how I found that out. It's just too damn depressing to tell).

So....

Did the kit come with the parts and did it work like it was supposed to (supposing also the it was properly assembled) when it was turned on?

Tell me quick, before I redo my NN1G for 30m with a 16.0 MHz IF. Or buy the NW80** for 30m and do a dance with the soldering iron, my out-of-alignment bifocals and my seriously-in-need-of-alignment brain.

Which reminds me: Am I correct in assuming that the progress of human kind since homo habilis is the direct result of our enlarged thumb and prehensile brain?

73

Nils

WB8IJJ &c

("Now Junior, you know how we feel about people who can't suppress their food barks.")

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 11:02:20 1994
Message-Id: <199411171045.CAA29069@mail.netcom.com>
From: Charlos Potma <Charlos.Potma@rivm.nl>
Subject: OHR WM-1 improvements
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 94 11:36:22 GMT

hello all,

I have been using my Oak Hills Research Wattmeter for a few months now and am very satisfied with it. I think it is the best piece of test equipment I have put together lately. Nevertheless I think it can be improved a little and modified the WM-1 in the following way:

1. I have added a socket for an external power supply. I use a 12V 'plug-in-the-wall' (?) type and have added a 7809 to get 9V. If I plug in the external power supply the internal battery is disconnected.
2. I constantly forgot to switch off the WM-1. I added a small red LED and mounted it between the two switches on the front panel.
3. I added an extra S0239 type socket to the rear panel. Internally a T0-220 (?) type 50 Ohm dummy load is soldered directly on the S0239. The dummy is bolted on the rear panel and can easily dissipate 5 W. If I want to use the dummy load I use a short cable to connect the "LOAD" to the dummy. I don't need to carry around a separate dummy load anymore.

Has anyone of you ever measured the frequency dependancy of the WM-1 ?
Can it be used up to 50 Mhz ?

The kit documentation does not mention any specifications.

73,

PA3CKR, Charlos Potma
charlos@rivm.nl

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 11:49:20 1994
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 94 09:38:09 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9411171538.AA02947@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: Re: OHR WM-1 improvements

Charlos asked about the frequency limits on the WM-1. In phone discussion with Dick at OHR early in the year he measured up to 140MHz and it worked fine. I don't know about the 2M range from 144 to 148MHz. Maybe someone in this group has done the measurements. 6M should be no problem at all for this meter.

I'm glad to see that I'm not the only one who has trouble remembering to power the WM-1 off after taking a measurement. I've gone through two batteries in about 18 months of use, but I still think that's not too bad considering with any drain at all I would have gone through a dozen batteries. :-)

I saved the battery saving circuit posted early to this

group and hope to get it into mine one of these days.

dit dit

SIG

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60

adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 16:26:54 1994

Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 14:31:50 -0330 (NST)

From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Subject: Re: OHR WM-1 improvements

Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9411171450.A13751-01000000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Charlos,

You may want to check with OHR to see if you have a "late" WM-1 kit. A number of months ago Dick made a change to the instructions to allow service up to 150 Mhz. It had to do with how you "dressed" the cable through the toroid.

There was a automatic turn-off feature posted here a few months ago on the QRP-L. I'd be curious if any other folks have implemented this user mod. I myself have run a battery or two down by leaving it on. I guess an LED would help but that also draws current (no CMOS LED's out there yet?), so your solution of a 12V or 9V wall power supply sound good.

Thanks for your info.

72 Bob VO1DRB/WA6ERB

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 15:17:02 1994

Message-Id: <INELVM1.LVE.893426110094321FINELVM1@INEL.GOV>

Date: 17 Nov 1994 11:26:11 MST

From: "Larry East" <LVE@inel.gov>

Subject: QRP Dummy Load

Advanced Nuclear Systems Technology

MS 7113 533-4005 lve@inel.gov

For those who haven't browsed around your local Radio Shack lately, they have a nice (but a bit pricey...) 50 Ohm dummy load (rated at 15W, I believe) with a built-in UHF (male) connector. Nice little gadget -- even works at 2m. I've "zapped" mine with 50W for a few seconds with no ill effects. Just a note for you who would rather spend money than build...

Have a productive day :-)

=====

7.3 de Michael aa0ub (formerly kd6wdd and kg0ot)
miker@cc.com --==<< I'm the last 'S' in KISS >>==--
=====

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Thu Nov 17 15:28:30 1994
Message-Id: <INELVM1.LVE.485056080094321FINELVM1@INEL.GOV>
Date: 17 Nov 1994 08:56:08 MST
From: "Larry East" <LVE@inel.gov>
Subject: SunSITE FTP Address

Advanced Nuclear Systems Technology
MS 7113 533-4005 lve@inel.gov
Would someone be kind enough to supply me with the SunSITE FTP archives
TCP/IP address? Forgot to put it where I can find it ... sorry.

72/73 & tnx, Larry W1HUE/7

Have a productive day :-)